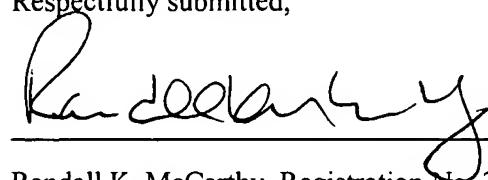


statements and characterizations by the Examiner with regard to the reasons for allowance are expressly denied and will have no preclusive effect on the construction and scope of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/28/06



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